

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Public Works	(2) MEETING DATE 10/8/2013	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Jeff Werst, Design Division Manager (805) 781-4480	
(4) SUBJECT Submittal of a resolution approving the Branch Mill Road Bridge Replacement Project, adopting the mitigated negative declaration, and directing staff to proceed with associated project development activities. District 4.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that your Honorable Board: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Adopt the attached resolution approving the Branch Mill Road Bridge Replacement Project and adopting the mitigated negative declaration pursuant to Section 21000 et seq., of the California Public Resources Code (CEQA); and 2. Direct staff to proceed with associated project development activities, including but not limited to: right-of-way processes; environmental regulatory permits; and preparation of final plans and specifications. 			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) HBP, Road Fund	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ____) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5th's Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP Attached	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A Date:	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW <i>Nikki J. Schmidt</i>			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) District 4 -			

Reference: 13OCT08-C-2

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Public Works

Jeff Werst, Design Division Manager

Mark Hutchinson, Environmental Division Manager

VIA: Dave Flynn, Deputy Director of Public Works

DATE: 10/8/2013

SUBJECT: Submittal of a resolution approving the Branch Mill Road Bridge Replacement Project, adopting the mitigated negative declaration, and directing staff to proceed with associated project development activities. District 4.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that your Honorable Board:

1. Adopt the attached resolution approving the Branch Mill Road Bridge Replacement Project and adopting the mitigated negative declaration pursuant to Section 21000 et seq., of the California Public Resources Code (CEQA); and
2. Direct staff to proceed with associated project development activities, including but not limited to: right-of-way processes; environmental regulatory permits; and preparation of final plans and specifications.

DISCUSSION

The proposed project will replace a structurally deficient bridge on Branch Mill Road over Tar Spring Creek, approximately 1,200 feet southwest of Huasna Road, east of the City of Arroyo Grande.

The existing bridge has experienced on-going erosion near the foundations and is a steel truss design which has required extensive maintenance. The Project will construct a new 105 foot long two-lane concrete bridge clear spanning the creek which will result in the temporary disturbance of 2.19 acres and the permanent disturbance of approximately 1.4 acres. Construction is anticipated to begin in 2015 and may require approximately six to nine months to complete, including an approximate five month road closure. The bridge will be constructed on the existing alignment to reduce overall impacts. Precast concrete girders are proposed for construction to reduce the traffic impacts by limiting the period of the road closure.

Work will occur during the dry season within the existing County right of way and on three privately owned parcels. A temporary single-lane bridge will be placed downstream of the site to allow for farm equipment and contractor access across the creek during construction. The temporary bridge

crossing will provide a safe crossing for farm equipment and keep them from having to travel through town and creating potential safety issues and traffic delays. Mitigation plantings within the riparian area are planned to be established downstream of the bridge.

As required by CEQA, all discretionary projects carried out by the Department of Public Works are reviewed to identify, avoid, reduce, and mitigate any environmental impacts. The initial study for this project was prepared by the Department of Public Works Environmental Division, with review and approval by the Environmental Coordinator in the Department of Planning and Building. The Environmental Coordinator found that the proposed project will not have a significant effect on the environment because of the inclusion of mitigation and impact avoidance measures.

The initial study identified impacts and mitigation measures in the following issue areas: Agricultural Resources, Biological Resources, Hazards and Hazardous Materials, and Water Quality. Mitigation measures include: pre-construction surveys, worker education, and construction monitoring to avoid impacts to sensitive species; revegetation for biological resources; and best management practices for hazardous materials, water pollution, and erosion control.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

Prior to commencement of the Initial Study, other affected local, State and Federal Agencies are notified of a proposed project. The County Agricultural Commissioner's Office has reviewed the project description and provided one mitigation measure regarding disposal of excess material.

The proposed mitigated negative declaration was noticed for public comment in a local newspaper and circulated to State agencies through the State Clearinghouse. The minimum 30-day review period ended September 16, 2013; two comments were received. A stock letter of response was submitted by the Native American Heritage Commission and the State Department of Water Resources noted that the project will require a right of way permit from their agency. Public Works conducted a public meeting with residents in 2012 and contacted residents again this summer regarding the project.

Prior to the commencement of work within the stream bed and banks, a Streambed Alteration Agreement from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, Section 404 Authorization from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Section 401 Certification from the Regional Water Quality Control Board must be secured.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

This project is a multi-year project budgeted in the Road Fund for FY 2013-14 (WBS 300385) in the amount of \$400,920. The project will be funded from the Federal Highway Bridge Replacement Program (HBP) and the Road Fund.

RESULTS

Approval of the project and adoption of the Mitigated Negative Declaration will complete permitting, right-of-way, and final design phases. Completion of the project will replace the structurally deficient bridge on Branch Mill Road, thereby contributing to a safe and prosperous community.

c: Katie Drexhage, Environmental Resource Specialist

File: WBS 300385

Reference: 13OCT08-C-2

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ATTACHMENTS

1. Vicinity Map
2. Resolution Approving the Branch Mill Road Bridge Replacement Project and Adopting the Mitigated Negative Declaration Pursuant to California Environmental Quality Act, and Adopting the Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Program